

**From:** William Stokes  
**To:** Paul Baker  
**Date:** 12/27/2006 11:39:56 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Duke Postmining Land Use

I would give them a release as that was part of the deal with the surface lessee. The surface lessee (the rock people) requested that the surface remain as it is for their use under their surface use agreement. The post mining use is agricultural and recreational. However if the new mineral lessee submits a plan for mineral development I will require that they assume full responsibility for full reclamation. Do you need something more formal for your records??? I will be taking this afternoon off as well as thursday and Friday.

>>> Paul Baker 12/27/2006 11:20 AM >>>  
Yes.

>>> William Stokes 12/27/06 10:26 AM >>>  
Is it RidgePoint that is requesting the release?

>>> Paul Baker 12/27/2006 10:06 AM >>>  
Since's there's no bond to release, we would be releasing Ridgepointe Mining from further requirements under the Mined Land Reclamation Act and their small mine notice (their obligation to reclaim).

The land needs to be left in a configuration suitable for the postmining land use, whatever that may be. If it's cropland (alfalfa), it needs to be smooth, not like it is now. I would accept a rough surface for native vegetation, but they haven't planted native vegetation. Since they haven't reclaimed and don't meet these requirements, the site still needs to be permitted.

I will go back through my letter and make sure it's clear what "release" means and why we're denying it.

I appreciate your questions. They help me realize the operator probably won't understand my terminology.

>>> William Stokes 12/27/06 8:27 AM >>>  
I am a bit unclear about which release you are referring too. Remember that SITLA released RidgePoint's bond because the rock people wanted the surface to remain as is for AG purposes. Who is it requesting a release?

>>> Paul Baker 12/22/2006 3:47 PM >>>  
I'm going to deny their release request and tell them by January 31 they need to either 1. Submit a bond of \$10,000; 2. Reclaim; or 3. Get us a completed permit transfer form.

>>> William Stokes 12/22/2006 2:51:02 PM >>>  
Paul - those lands have been re-leased by someone who wants to continue the mineral development there. I am going to have them accept the current disturbance under there mine plan. When they file a plan. No more favors for the rock people. And no they are not permitted for a race private track even though that is what they use it for. I will contact the mineral lessee and try to find out what there plans are.

>>> Paul Baker 12/22/2006 1:12 PM >>>  
I have some more questions about this and wonder whom I should contact in the surface management group. I'm wanting to find out about the well.

>>> William Stokes 6/8/2006 11:58:04 AM >>>  
Since Rockland Corporation holds a Modified Grazing permit on these lands post mining use should be for alfalfa. I have not heard that they will use it for a race track, even though they use it for their own recreation. I have no idea what they would want the tank for. In any event this is now in the hands of the Surface management group. What is a frac tank anyway?

>>> Paul Baker 6/7/2006 3:25 PM >>>

What will be the postmining land use for the Duke Mine? I've heard it will be race track, but I've also heard they will plant it for alfalfa. I'm fine with either of these uses, but I need to know.

They're keeping the frac tank, but do you know for what purpose?

Thanks. Paul